

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-10, and 12-16 are now pending in the application. Claims 4 and 11 are cancelled without disclaimer or prejudice to the subject matter contained therein. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

DOUBLE PATENTING

Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 12, 13, 15 and 16 are provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 11, 13 and 14, respectively, of co-pending Application No. 10/790,688 ("the '688 application"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant amended claims 1 and 8 to incorporate the subject matter of claims 4 and 11, respectively. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 12, 13, 15, and 16 are not coextensive in scope with the claims of the '688 application.

With respect to any consequent obviousness-type double patenting rejections, Applicant respectfully notes that a terminal disclaimer was filed on August 2, 2006.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 16 stands objected to for certain informalities. Applicant amended claim 16 to recite "an electronic circuit verified by the computer program."

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 15 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

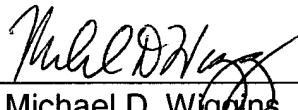
Applicant amended claims 15 and 16 to recite "an electronic circuit." For example, "[f]ormal verification is a name for a variety of methods for proving the correctness of electronic circuit designs." (See Paragraph [0012]). Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter of claims 15 and 16 is adequately described in the specification and that claims 15 and 16 comply with the written description requirement.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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